

REMARKS

Original claims 1-22 have been canceled. New claims 23-43 are pending herein.

1. Claims 1-10, 12, 13, 17, 18, 20 and 21 were rejected under §112, first paragraph. Applicants submit that this rejection is overcome in light of the new claims. In short, the originally filed claims have been canceled, with new claims 23-43 more clearly focusing on the elected invention, a superconductive article. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the §112, first paragraph rejection are respectfully requested.

2. Claims 1-10, 12, 13, 17, 18, 20 and 21 were rejected under §112, second paragraph. For the reasons noted above, Applicants submit that this rejection is overcome in light of new claims 23-43. Accordingly, withdrawal of the §112, second paragraph rejection is respectfully requested.

3. Claims 1-10, 12-14 and 17-22 were rejected under §102 over Jia et al. In addition, the claims were rejected under §103 over Jia et al. in view of Honjo et al. These rejections are respectfully traversed for the following reasons.

According to the claimed invention, a superconductive article is provided that includes a substrate tape and a superconductive layer. The superconductive layer comprises a plurality of superconductive films of the same material, the plurality of superconductive films being in direct contact with each other. This structure is specifically shown in FIG. 4a, illustrating layers 152-160 all formed of the same superconductive material overlying substrate tape 116. In this regard, attention is also drawn to FIG. 1, which illustrates a plurality of precursor delivery systems each of which receives a precursor material from the same source, along gas line 104. Additional description is provided on page 8, lines 12-13 of the present specification.

Turning to the cited prior art, the example noted by the PTO, Example 4 of Jia et al. appears to be the most relevant disclosure to the invention as now claimed. Example 4 describes a structure having alternating Y-Sm based superconductive layers. Jia et al. fail to disclose (or even remotely suggest) a structure in which a plurality of superconductive films are in direct contact with each other all formed of the same material. In this respect, it is noted that Jia et al. teach against such a structure, notably teaching that it is important to cease deposition of the superconductor material, and deposit an interlayer of dissimilar material before continuing with deposition of the superconductor material. As described in column 4, lines 12-18, the interlayer functions to terminate growth of defects in the growing superconductor material.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that all features of the invention as now claimed are not disclosed or even remotely suggested by Jia et al. and Honjo et al. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the §102 and §103 rejections over these references are respectfully requested.

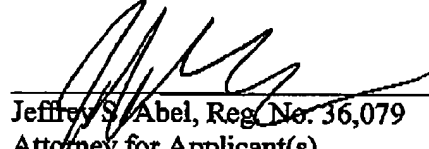
Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to issue a Notice of Allowance for all pending claims.

Should the Examiner deem that any further action by the Applicants would be desirable for placing this application in even better condition for issue, the Examiner is requested to telephone Applicants' undersigned attorney at the number listed below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees, which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number 50-2469.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date


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